



**CITY OF LOS ALTOS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 26, 2016**

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Item # 2

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the FY 2015/16 Community Development Block Grant Capital Improvement Program agreement for the use of eligible FY 2016/17 Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$77,952 to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028

BACKGROUND

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through the County of Santa Clara, to small cities within the County. The program funds capital projects that benefit low and very-low income households or otherwise disadvantaged persons. CDBG Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds may not be used for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance projects in general. Applicable capital projects include new low-income housing construction or rehabilitation and ADA improvements that remove an existing barrier for the disabled.

The City of Los Altos has traditionally used CDBG funds to assist those considered a “Presumed Benefit;” a category of people who are presumed to be low-income, such as seniors, severely disabled adults and victims of domestic abuse by installing curb cuts, widening sidewalks, etc., which remove barriers impeding disabled access. On May 27, 2014, Council approved a Joint Powers Agreement with the County of Santa Clara that allows the City to continue receiving allocations from the CDBG CIP program through September 2017.

At its April 14, 2015 meeting, City Council authorized the City Manager to execute the CDBG Contract for FY 2015/16 and appropriated up to \$75,000 of eligible CDBG funds to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028. Subsequent to the Council’s action, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors met on May 5, 2015 and awarded \$77,952 in CDBG funds to the City of Los Altos for use on capital improvement projects. Council approved use of the additional \$2,952 CDBG funds for the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Project at its May 26, 2015 meeting. The project is currently in the design phase with construction anticipated in late summer 2016.

EXISTING POLICY

The City receives Community Development Block Grant Capital Improvement Project funds as a result of the 2014/17 Joint Powers Agreement with the County of Santa Clara.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

April 14, 2015; and May 26, 2015

DISCUSSION

While design for the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028 is still in the early stages, it is anticipated the total cost for its design and construction will significantly exceed the current \$77,952 CDBG CIP contract amount. City and County staff have discussed funding

options which would enable the project to be completed in its entirety as a single project versus individual projects completed over a two-year period. The County has proposed an amendment to the current FY 2015/16 agreement to include the combined use of FY 2015/16 and FY 2016/17 CDBG CIP funds for the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Project.

County staff have indicated the FY 2016/17 CDBG CIP funding amount will be the same as the current contract amount of \$77,952. The combined use of FY 2015/16 and FY 2016/17 CDBG funds is expected to be sufficient for completion of the Parking Plaza Drive Way Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028.

The proposed combined use of the two years of funding will allow for the project to be completed as one construction project, minimize construction impacts in the downtown, and reduce overall project costs. The requested Council action will allow County CDBG staff to seek County Board of Supervisors approval for the use of eligible CDBG CIP funds. It is anticipated County staff will present the City of Los Altos FY 2016/17 CDBG CIP funding recommendation to the Board at its March 22, 2016 meeting.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Posting of the meeting agenda serves as notice to the general public.

FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACT

It is anticipated the combined amount of \$155,904 will be sufficient for design and construction Parking Plaza Driveway Approach, Project TS-01028. Appropriation for the use of FY 2016/17 CDBG funds would be included in the FY 2016/17 Capital Improvement Program budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Categorically Exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 (c) Improvement of Existing Facilities

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the FY 2015/16 Community Development Block Grant Capital Improvement Program agreement for the use of eligible FY 2016/17 Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$77,952 to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028

ALTERNATIVES

1. Do not amend the current CDBG agreement with the County and construct the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028 as two individual projects.

Prepared by: Dave Brees, Special Projects Manager
Reviewed by: Susanna Chan, Public Works Director
Approved by: Marcia Somers, City Manager

ATTACHMENT: None

Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the FY 2015/16 Community Development Block Grant Capital Improvement Program agreement for the use of eligible FY 2016/17 Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$77,952 to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvements, Project TS-01028
